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The Belize Times

Established 1957

2 FEBRUARY 2025 | ISSUE NO: 5439

— The Truth Shall Make You Free —

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INTRODUCING THE NEW BELIZEAN ECONOMY

GOB's BEEP Provides Grants to 29 Entrepreneurs

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"The Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project is more than just a funding initiative. It is a catalyst for transformation. It embodies our collective belief that when we invest in individuals, we invest in the future of our communities"
– Narda Garcia, CEO, Office of the PM

New Compactor Truck for Belize City | Plans for WTE, Ozaka 2025
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MARCONI LEAL, JR.

Candidate for Belize Rural North
BRN Executive Unanimous

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Right Pan Track >>> ¡Vamos Bien!

INTRODUCING THE NEW BELIZEAN ECONOMY

GOB's BEEP Provides Grants to 29 Entrepreneurs

The government of Belize has unveiled another successful and transformative project which will immediately impact the lives and livelihoods of twenty-nine entrepreneurs heading MSMEs across the country. On Tuesday, January 28, 2025, the Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project (BEEP), hosted by BELTRAIDE through the Office of the Prime Minister, presented seed funding to the successful applicants at an award ceremony in Belize City.

Fourteen of the entrepreneurs were awarded under the start-up category and received grants of $5000, while fifteen were awarded under the export or near export-ready category and received grants of $20,000. The successful MSMEs represented diverse fields, including agriculture, health and beauty, computer programming, tourism and agro-processing, and were chosen from over 300 applicants who went through a rigorous selection process, starting with critical business training.

"We've had 279 startup applications and 45 export applications. Over the past months, we've witnessed the dedication of our participants firsthand who have engaged in our training sessions to hone their skills in financial management, digital marketing, sales, and crafting compelling investment plans," explained BELTRAIDE's Executive Director Ishmael Quiroz.

Following that intensive training, applicants then had to make a pitch for their businesses to a panel of experts, and that resulted in the selection of twenty-nine to receive the grants. Those successful applicants were lauded by representatives from BELTRAIDE and from the Office of the Prime Minister.

"We have seen a variety of different ideas and so it just speaks to the creativity that exists in the Belizean entrepreneurial landscape. That has been inspirational," said Quiroz.

The Office of the Prime Minister has been instrumental in promoting entrepreneurship in Belize, not only through words, but through action. This project is only one manifestation of an ongoing enhancement of what is becoming the new Belizean economic landscape.

According to CEO Narda Garcia in the Office of the PM, *"each of our awardees has demonstrated exceptional dedication, creativity and perseverance in their respective fields. They have faced challenges head-on and through their hard work and determination, they have not only uplifted themselves but also inspired those around them. The Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project embodies our collective belief that when we invest in individuals, we invest in the future of our communities. By providing resources along with training and support we are enabling our entrepreneurs to turn their visions into reality, create jobs and contribute to the economic vitality of Belize."*

The project is already looking to assemble two more cohorts of applicants for training and grant-funding, and the current recipients are providing glowing recommendations of their experiences.

"Through BEEP, I gained much more than just financial support. The program offered critical training sessions that were very important, that helped me refine my business model, solidify my goals, and tackle my challenges with confidence," said Gabriel Casey of Pixel Pro Media.

The Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project (BEEP) was implemented to provide access to financial resources and business leadership skills to 95 MSMEs in Belize over a 2-year period to establish and grow into thriving, consolidated businesses, ultimately generating new employment opportunities and driving economic growth throughout Belize.

PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

Queen Street, Belize City, Belize, C.A.
Tel: 677-9168
www.pup.org.bz

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

For Immediate Release

The People's United Party (PUP) wishes to inform that Hon. Marconi Leal has made the difficult and personal decision not to contest the upcoming General Elections. After careful consideration and discussion with his family, the Belize Rural North (BRN) Executive Committee and the Party leadership, Hon. Leal has decided to step aside in order to focus on personal matters.

The Party fully respects and supports his decision and expresses deep gratitude for his years of dedicated service to the constituency and the nation. His leadership and commitment have been invaluable to the development of Belize Rural North and the progress of the PUP.

The selection of the new PUP Standard Bearer will be done in full consultation with the PUP Executive of BRN. Hon. Leal has pledged his full support for the selection of the new Standard Bearer and has committed to delivering another victory in the upcoming General Elections.

The PUP remains steadfast in its mission to build a better Belize, and with the continued support of the people of Belize Rural North, we are committed to ensuring a strong and united team moving forward.

---Ends---

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PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

Queen Street, Belize City, Belize, C.A.
Tel: 677-9168
www.pup.org.bz

Thursday, January 30, 2025

For Immediate Release

PUP BRN UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTS MARCONI LEAL JR.

The Executive Committee of the People's United Party in Belize Rural North (BRN) met on January 29, 2025, to deliberate on the matter of the next PUP Standard Bearer for the constituency. After careful consideration the Committee unanimously recommended Marconi Leal Jr.

At today's meeting of the National Executive, this recommendation was formally ratified. Moving forward, the Chairman of the Eastern Caucus will collaborate with the BRN Executive Committee to finalize arrangements and set the date for the official swearing-in of Marconi Leal Jr. as the new Standard Bearer.

The BRN Executive Committee expresses its gratitude to Hon. Marconi Leal Sr., for his service and leadership. The Committee looks forward to a seamless transition and continued dedication to the people of Belize Rural North under the leadership of Marconi Leal Jr.

INAUGURATION

El Cayo Board Walk

El Cayo Boardwalk, a new tourism destination that leverages the beauty of the Macal River, has been inaugurated and is now open to visitors! All this has happened after the cynics and skeptics said it was not possible. The groundbreaking for this project happened before the municipal election of 2024 and the UDPs tried to kill it in spite the obvious greatness of the initiative. The potential that this project taps into is open to increased activity in the area.

The boardwalk features four kiosks available for rent to business owners in San Ignacio and Santa Elena. It is expected to serve as a super vibrant hub for activities such as night markets, providing a gathering space for students, residents, and tourists alike.

This project was made possible through a collaboration between the Belize Tourism Board and Hon. Orlando Habet, Minister of Sustainable Development & Climate Change and Area Representative

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Printed and Published By
TIMES NEWSPAPER LTD.
Tel: 280-8385
#3 Queen Street
P.O. BOX 506
Belize City, Belize
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EDITORIAL

A NATIONAL DISGRACE

There are many in Belize who view the Opposition's shenanigans as a joke, notable only for entertainment value. But there is absolutely nothing funny about the bizarre circus which is the United Democratic Party. In fact, considering the vital role the Opposition should play in the democracy of this country, and the obligation it has to the people of Belize, the situation is in its best light a national disgrace and cause for shame.

This week, UDP leader Shyne Barrow has doubled down on his insistence that Tracy Panton et al are not members of the United Democratic Party, and rather members of another party called the Alliance for Democracy. He has stated, in response to questions, that there is no hope for reconciliation. He has gone on a focused attack, claiming that the members of the Alliance are a 'corrupt cabal,' and he has done the country a favour by getting rid of them. As for his readiness for elections, Barrow claims that he has 31 candidates ready to go but has yet to produce a slate of these candidates when asked.

Last week, UDP leader Tracy Panton seemed to be floating on a cloud of euphoria. Just on the basis of her passion, energy and confidence, one could be excused for thinking she was preaching to an adoring crowd of thousands, rather than a ragtag bunch of about 50 packed into a sweltering office. Like a bright orange warrior queen, she vowed to rescue the UDP from the likes of Shyne Barrow. She denounced him for being a dictator and always wanting his own way. Then she proclaimed that if Shyne did not accept her leadership and her way, he would have to go.

Like Barrow, Panton says she and her cabal are ready for general elections. And also like Barrow, she has yet to produce a slate when asked. Both claim to be the real UDP, and both claim they are waiting for the Court to hand down a judgment supporting their respective claims.

In the meantime, Panton has put up a candidate to challenge Barrow in Mesopotamia, and Barrow has put up a candidate to challenge Panton in Albert. Barrow is also boasting candidates to challenge Patrick Faber in Collet, Godwin Haylock in Queen Square and John Saldivar in Belmopan. He has a candidate to challenge either Boots Martinez or Phillip Willoughby in Port Loyola. Both Martinez and Willoughby have aligned themselves with Panton, but it is not certain which one of them will actually run. All the persons mentioned above claim to be running on the UDP ticket, which ensures total chaos and confusion for them in the upcoming election.

But shut out all the noise from that marketplace of the bizarre, and one thing becomes apparent. Right-thinking Belizeans have all moved past the UDP, in all its shapes and forms and manifestations. There are a few diehard UDPs who are vehemently anti-Shyne or anti-Tracy and will battle it out to the end. There are those who find it all hilarious, and comment accordingly at every opportunity. There are even those, mostly from the UDP camp, who beg for elections to bring an end to the insanity.

Most have simply accepted that the UDP is done, and is a non-entity, and are quietly waiting for elections. Note Mr. Barrow's press conference this week: He and his shadow ministers spoke for two hours to empty chairs. They presented on a number of national issues, and in the end the media did not ask even one question pertaining to a national issue.

It is the same for Ms. Panton. She and her crew have not been able to muster any sort of credible support. There is no energy to her movement, no real presence from her version of the UDP. In fact, whatever campaign she was mounting seems to have stalled in the water, run out of steam, fizzled out. And nobody seems to care.

Nobody believes that the UDP has anything constructive or credible to add to any discussion. Nobody wants to hear what they have to say. That is the truth, and it is, for all intents and purposes, the end of the UDP.

EDITORIAL

en Español

UNA DESGRACIA NACIONAL

Hay muchos en Belice que consideran los chanchullos de la oposición como una broma que sólo tiene valor de entretenimiento. Pero no hay absolutamente nada divertido en el extraño circo que es el Partido Unido Democrático. De hecho, teniendo en cuenta el papel vital que la oposición debe desempeñar en la democracia de este país, y la obligación que tiene con el pueblo de Belice, la situación es en su mejor luz una desgracia nacional y motivo de vergüenza.

Esta semana, el líder del UDP, Shyne Barrow, ha insistido en que Tracy Panton y otros no son miembros del Partido Unido Democrático, sino de otro partido llamado Alianza para la Democracia. Ha declarado, en respuesta a las preguntas que no hay esperanza de reconciliación. Se ha centrado en el ataque, afirmando que los miembros de la Alianza son una «cábala corrupta», y que ha hecho un favor al país deshaciéndose de ellos. En cuanto a su preparación para las elecciones, Barrow afirma que tiene 31 candidatos preparados, pero aún no ha presentado una lista de ellos cuando se le ha preguntado.

La semana pasada, la líder del UDP, Tracy Panton, parecía flotar en una nube de euforia. Sólo por su pasión, energía y confianza, uno podría pensar que estaba predicando a una multitud de miles de personas, en lugar de a un grupo de unos 50 en una oficina sofocante. Como una brillante reina guerrera naranja, prometió rescatar al UDP de gente como Shyne Barrow. Lo denunció por ser un dictador y querer siempre salirse con la suya. Luego proclamó que, si Shyne no aceptaba su liderazgo ni su manera de hacer las cosas, tendría que irse.

Al igual que Barrow, Panton afirma que ella y su camarilla están preparadas para las elecciones generales. Y también como Barrow, todavía no ha presentado una lista de candidatos cuando se le ha preguntado. Ambos afirman ser el verdadero UDP, y ambos afirman que están esperando a que el Tribunal dicte una sentencia que apoye sus respectivas reivindicaciones.

Mientras tanto, Panton ha presentado un candidato para desafiar a Barrow en Mesopotamia, y Barrow ha presentado un candidato para desafiar a Panton en Albert. Barrow también tiene candidatos para desafiar a Patrick Faber en Collet, Godwin Haylock en Queen Square y John Saldivar en Belmopan. Tiene un candidato para desafiar a Boots Martinez o Phillip Willoughby en Port Loyola. Tanto Martínez como Willoughby se han alineado con Panton, pero no es seguro cuál de ellos se presentará realmente. Todas las personas mencionadas afirman presentarse en la candidatura del UDP, lo que les garantiza un caos y una confusión total en las próximas elecciones.

Pero si se excluye todo el ruido de ese mercado de lo extraño, una cosa resulta evidente. Todos los beliceños que piensan correctamente han dejado atrás al UDP, en todas sus formas y manifestaciones. Hay algunos UDP acérrimos que son vehementemente anti-Shyne o anti-Tracy y lucharán hasta el final. Los hay a los que todo esto les parece divertidísimo y lo comentan cada vez que pueden. Incluso hay, sobre todo del UDP, quienes piden elecciones para poner fin a esta locura.

La mayoría ha aceptado sencillamente que el UDP está acabado, que es una nulidad, y espera tranquilamente a que se celebren elecciones. Fíjense en la rueda de prensa de Barrow esta semana. Él y sus ministros en la sombra hablaron durante dos horas ante sillas vacías. Expusieron una serie de cuestiones nacionales y, al final, los medios de comunicación no formularon ni una sola pregunta relativa a una cuestión nacional.

Lo mismo le ocurre a la Sra. Panton. Ella y su equipo no han sido capaces de reunir ningún tipo de apoyo creíble. No hay energía en su movimiento, no hay presencia real de su versión del UDP. De hecho, la campaña que estaba montando parece haberse estancado en el agua, agotado, desvanecido. Y a nadie parece importarle.

Nadie cree que el UDP tenga algo constructivo o creíble que añadir a cualquier debate. Nadie quiere oír lo que tienen que decir. Esa es la verdad, y es, a todos los efectos, el fin del UDP.

RIVA BATTAM

Swiper

If you notice that Tracy has gone a lil quiet recently, there's a reason for that. Jamal has been quietly swiping her candidates. Last week, it was the Cayo North ghost, Omar Figueroa who ditched Tracy, and this week Jamal announced that he was in 'discussions' with El Odio from Orange Walk East to join his tribe. Tracy's fall in popularity is sudden and very interesting. Sources in her camp say that her coffers have run completely dry after the Lord (Ashcroft, that is) advised donors to just sit this one out because the UDP was going to lose anyway. Those sources also say that more defections are likely, as soon as this coming weekend, unless Tracy can find some 'money' to buy some UDP love.

Malpago

By now most of us have seen the recording of Jamal furiously screaming at his Mesop campaign manager, Dianne Finnegan. In case you were wondering why, we can tell you. You see those defections from Tracy's camp? Well, apparently Jamal's 'discussions' with candidates includes a promise to deliver $130K to them. Who said money can't buy love? Thing is, the money hasn't been reaching into the bank accounts of these candidates, and they've been getting increasingly agitated. So they've been reaching out to Ms. D, who then reached out to Jamal to advise him that he better dip into that 'personal fortune' he's always talking about. The man went off, and poor Ms. D took the brunt of it. Please, Mister PM, call elections. Those people on the other side be getting all kinds of frustrated and it ain't pretty.

Piggy

Jamal held a press conference this week to talk about 'national issues.' After he and his shady cabinet spoke for over two hours, they opened the floor to questions. Nobody had any, because nobody takes these fools seriously. Anyway, that's a story for another time. What we wanted to do here is acknowledge an old and very good friend, Carlos 'Piggy' Perera, a member of the UDP's shady cabinet, actually the shady minister of health. We at the PUP know Piggy very well. We got close to him when we were going through confidential UDP documents and files he used to sneak to us at Charter House before the 2020 elections. The man got to the point he had his own parking spot and almost had his own office there. We don't even blame him much for acting so cozy with Jamal. We know how that game is played. You go do your thing, Piggy. We'll be waiting for you at Charter House.

MIA

And speaking about that press conference, has anybody seen Jamal's prize candidates David Almendarez and Jose Uk? The media wasn't concerned about the UDP's stance on political issues. But they were concerned to find out what hole Jamal dug up these people from. Almendarez is a part of FECTAB's comedy duo – he shouts while Yhony cries. No credibility at all. As for Espat, he fits well into Jamal's crew because everybody takes him for a clown. He is the man who passed himself off as a real doctor at the KHMH and was fired when they found out his degree was as fake as Jamal's one. Nobody will ever forget that. Anyway, the point is that Jamal has been boasting that they are ready, but his candidates are nowhere to be seen. As we keep saying, don't even waste your votes. This crowd DONE.

Injunction

Jamal has asked the Court to jail Tracy for continuing to say that she is UDP and is the leader of the UDP. Then this week, he threatened to sue the media if any of them even referred to Tracy and her crew as UDP. Now sources close to this idiot tell us that he is meeting with his lawyer today to explore asking the Court for an injunction to stop Tracy and her cabal from using the color red. And that's all we're going to say about that.

El Cayo Board Walk

Continued from page 2

for Cayo North East.

Cayo is ready to not repeat the March 2024 mistake of voting for a UDP that is in now in chaos. God forbid they would have won more municipal seats in that 2024 election. In 2025, Cayo Northeast will be reelected along with Cayo North, Cayo South, Cayo West, Cayo Central and Belmopan. San Ignacio and Santa Elena will be Right Pan Track.

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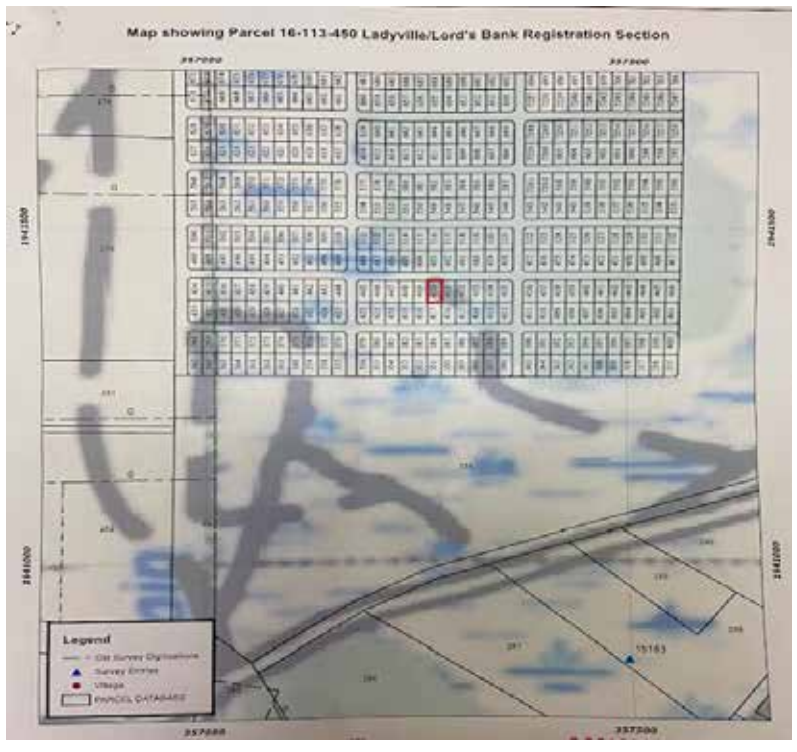

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AGRIC & NEW ENTERPRISE CARROT JUICE

Solving the Oversupply Crisis

From Farm to Table was the original goal set out by planBelize for the Ministry of Agriculture and its eventual Minister Jose Mai. He was to transform and really rebuild the Agriculture industry beginning from Day 1. Belize literally began exporting Cattle on November 12, 2020. Today the variety of products is unrecognizable and astounding from Pitahaya to Coconuts to Sorghum and from revitalizing Rice, Shrimp, and Cattle to managing Sugar, Citrus, Bananas and making sure that our vegetables were babied. The vegetable industry needs to be protected or else imports would just take over. Belizeans need vegetable in more ways that just at the table. If managed well, vegetable can also provide a boost to the export market.

Here enters the notion of Carrot Juice. The Ministry of Agriculture plus carrot farmers plus BMDC plus Silk Grass Farms joined forces earlier to solve the carrot oversupply crisis.

These are the facts: There are 90 acres of carrots planted.

- Expected yield - 16,000 lbs/ acre. Therefore, this is 1,440,000 lbs of carrots.

The National weekly consumption is 40,000 lbs. With 640,000 lbs being harvested alone in January, this can provide the entire country with carrots for 16 weeks. There is a large oversupply as Belizeans would just consume about 160, 000 pounds. More acreage is set for February and March—some 50 more acres. The carrot farmers are still planting as the cut-off date to stop planting is 15th February. So, in other words, there is no way that the country can consume the entire carrot crop quickly enough.

Carrot is highly perishable, even in the refrigerator decomposition can be seen.

So, knowing these facts, the Ministry of Agriculture, BMDC, Silk Grass Farms and the farmers joined efforts to process the fresh carrots into juice. Taster have this as "excellent, tasting healthy, and nutritious.

The San Carlos' farmers visited Silk Grass Farms to have a first-hand look at carrots being processed. The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise is grateful to Henry Canton of Silk Grass Farms.

The abundance of carrots is especially noticeable in the Orange Walk and Corozal districts and the numbers had shown crisis level. With a market flooded by both an oversupply of local produce and competition from cheaper, imported Mexican carrots, farmers are facing challenges in selling their harvests.

Minister of Agriculture, Jose Mai, assures that no import permits are issued during the local harvest season and states emphatically that the ministry's efforts to combat illegal imports alongside customs and immigration agencies.

In an innovative move to address the carrot surplus, the Belize Marketing and Development Corporation (BMDC) has partnered with Silk Grass Farms to produce all-natural carrot juice. This initiative aims to provide a new outlet for the excess carrots, offering a product that embodies Belizean agricultural pride and supports local farmers.

Looking ahead, the Ministry of Agriculture is focusing on diversification as a

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CARTOON

CORRUPTION GALORE

I NEED ANOTHER LAPTOP
ME RUN, NEVA. UDP PAN DEM OWN
GOOD HOSPITAL CREDIT CARD
CORRUPTION
NO WAY, I LOSE.
WHO CARES IF I HAVE ANY GOOD CANDIDATE
LOO SHAMING HIS PA
TANKS GOD FOR THE PUP

PM Briceño and Area Rep Mai Visit Shipyard

The Prime Minister of Belize John Briceño along with Area Representative Jose Mai visited with the Shipyard community. Jose Mai always has the support of this community and he is grateful and always making sure he gives back in service.

He Publicly thanked them: "I also thanked them for their economic contribution to Belize's development."

The members of the community expressed gratitude for the work the Briceño administration has completed is the area.

There was a discussion on a way forward to complete upgrading the remaining 1.5 miles of road which includes the Guinea Grass Road. Incidentally, the people of that village are also thankful for the upgrade of the road leading up to their village.

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AGRIC & NEW ENTERPRISE CARROT JUICE

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strategy for agricultural stability. A visit to Guatemala by a delegation led by Minister Mai explored new farming practices and crop varieties. Among the initiatives is the introduction of new potato varieties suitable for processing, aiming to reduce dependency on single crops and mitigate issues of oversupply and market saturation.

The ministry's efforts towards diversification and value addition to perishable crops represent a vision for a more resilient agricultural sector in Belize. As the country embraces initiatives like carrot juice production.

Farmers from San Carlos visited Silk Grass Farms to see the processing of carrot juice using a high-pressure processing machine. The Belize Marketing & Development Corporation (BMDC) is partnering in this initiative to help address the surplus of locally grown carrots.

The trial, led by the Ministry of Agriculture, is transforming excess carrots into all-natural carrot juice. Produced at Silk Grass Farms, the juice is refrigerated, and has a shelf life of 120 days, which will soon be available in half-gallon and gallon bottles. This effort not only reduces food waste but also provides a nutritious, Belizean-made product.

By supporting local farmers and promoting value-added processing, the Ministry and BMDC are working together to strengthen the agricultural sector, ensuring a healthier and more sustainable future for Belize.

JAPAN HANDS OVER SECOND GARBAGE TRUCK TO BELIZE CITY COUNCIL

Belize City, January 30, 2025 – The Government of Japan has officially handed over a second compactor garbage truck to the Belize City Council as part of its Grant Assistance for Grassroots and Human Security Projects (GGP) Program. The handing-over ceremony took place at Memorial Park, marking another milestone in the strong partnership between Belize and Japan.

This initiative stems from the November 30, 2022, agreement between the Belize City Council and the Embassy of Japan, which secured funding for two garbage trucks valued at USD 269,747 (BZD 534,100). The first truck was delivered on February 13, 2024, and the second has now arrived to enhance waste management in the city.

Speaking at the event, Ambassador Nobuyuki Shirakata reaffirmed Japan's commitment to supporting Belize's environmental efforts. *"Japan's investment in Belize's solid waste management is bearing fruit, enabling the City Council to efficiently collect and dispose of waste for over 60,000 residents. These trucks will help manage the city's daily waste collection of sixty-six metric tons and improve sanitation services across all twelve zones,"* he stated.

Mayor Bernard Wagner expressed gratitude to Japan for its continued support, highlighting the positive impact of the donation. "This occasion demonstrates the enduring relationship between our two nations, built on shared values of cooperation, development, and environmental stewardship," he said.

The GGP program funds projects in health, education, agriculture, and infrastructure, strengthening Belize-Japan relations. These new compactor trucks will play a critical role in improving public health and promoting a cleaner, safer environment for the residents of Belize City.

SIMPSON'S INSURANCE AGENCY LTD.

SIMPSON'S INSURANCE AGENCY LIMITED

SIMPSON'S INSURANCE AGENCY LTD.

ANNOUNCEMENT: CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Simpson's Insurance Agency Limited (SIAL) is thrilled to announce the appointment of Donna-Marie Dennis as the Chief Operating Officer, effective January 1st 2025.

Hailed originally from Trinidad, Donna-Marie is a Chartered Property & Casualty Underwriter as well as the holder of an Associate in Risk Management and Master of Science in Strategic Leadership & Management and has over 2 decades of experience in the Property & Casualty industry being directly involved in a multinational environment at a corporate level. Her last two assignments allowed her to work and be directly involved in the transformative efforts to attain organizational efficiency in The Bahamas as well as to actively collaborate with the core functions to attain operational excellence within the British Virgin Islands.

Donna-Marie brings a wealth of knowledge in business continuity, catastrophe management, compliance, process optimization and risk management. She has a keen drive to exploit innovative initiatives and champions fostering a safe working culture that engages staff, as she believes they are the key ingredients to building an unbreakable foundation to enjoy sustainable success. Her skill set and qualities are viewed as the intellectual asset required to enhance our operations to soar in 2025 and beyond.

SIAL extends a warm welcome as we partner our efforts and embark on this transformative journey.

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1542 Constitution Drive | Belmopan | Belize C.A
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E-Mail: info@siabz.com | www.siabz.com

Anti-Money Laundering Reforms

Belize Earns Global Recognition

January 27, 2025 - Belize is receiving international acclaim for its rigorous efforts to combat money laundering and terrorism financing. The Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) has released Belize's 4th Round Mutual Evaluation Report, highlighting the nation's substantial progress in strengthening its financial regulations.

The report assessed Belize's performance in two key areas: technical compliance and effectiveness. Out of forty CFATF recommendations for technical compliance, Belize achieved full compliance in thirty-eight. The country also demonstrated substantial effectiveness in five of the eleven immediate outcomes, moderate effectiveness in another five, and low effectiveness in only one area.

At a press conference organized by the National Anti-Money Laundering Committee, officials underscored the significance of these achievements. Leni Ysaguirre-McGann, Director of Belize's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), emphasized the importance of compliance in maintaining the country's financial stability.

"Belize is part of the international financial system, and compliance is crucial for our economic and business viability," Ysaguirre-McGann stated. "Avoiding grey-listing or blacklisting ensures that we do not face enhanced scrutiny, which could negatively impact our economy." She explained that Belize's successful evaluation places it under a regular follow-up process, the highest standard, allowing longer reporting periods and reduced oversight pressure.

Minister of State for Finance, Economic Development, and Investment, Hon. Chris Coye, affirmed that Belize's financial services sector is now more attractive for investment. *"Our gold standard status, achieved by fewer than 15 percent of nations worldwide, strengthens Belize's position in mitigating de-risking and improving correspondent banking relations,"* he said.

Central Bank Governor Kareem Michael credited the government's proactive approach. *"The positive rating is the result of key legislative actions taken in 2022, 2023, and 2024 under Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño's leadership," Michael stated. "Decisive action and budgetary allocations were essential in preparing for the 4th round evaluation and avoiding the pitfalls of grey listing."*

The CFATF's report acknowledged Belize's substantial effectiveness in areas such as international cooperation, investigation, and prosecution of terrorism financing, as well as efforts to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction. The country also demonstrated moderate effectiveness in monitoring financial institutions and preventing money laundering. However, it was found to be less effective in investigating and prosecuting money laundering offences—an area where 92 percent of reviewed jurisdictions face similar challenges.

Belize's latest achievement marks a stark contrast to its performance in the 3rd Round Mutual Evaluation in 2011, when the country was found to be compliant with only two of forty-nine recommendations. Belize was grey listed in 2013, resulting in the loss of 87 percent of its correspondent banking relationships. The government's sustained reforms have now reversed this trajectory, placing the country among the region's financial leaders.

The National Committee responsible for Belize's successful rating includes the Director of Immigration, the Comptroller of Customs, and the Director of the Belize Tax Service Department. Their coordinated efforts have propelled Belize onto the global stage as a model for effective financial regulation.

OSAKA JAPAN WORLD EXPO 2025

-"Designing Future Society for Our Lives"

Osaka will be hosting the 2025 World Exposition from April 13th to October 13th on Yumeshina, a man-made Island, in Osaka Bay. The overall theme is "Designing Future Society for Our Lives". The subthemes are Saving Lives, Empowering Lives, and Connecting Lives.

Over 180 countries, including Belize, will be showcasing their vision for the future, sharing their culture, and engaging in international public diplomacy. Close to 300,000 visitors are expected to attend each month, and over the six months, a potential of 28.5 million people.

An issued press release stated that last week, representatives from BELTRAIDE attended an International Planning Meeting in Himeji, Japan for Expo 2025 in Osaka Japan. BELTRAIDE's delegation was led by the Executive Director, Ishmael Quiroz and included Nikki Agustine, the Manager of Marketing and Communications and Jalen Avila, Acting Manager of the Invest Unit. The planning meeting is an important component in maximizing Belize's presence at the upcoming World Expo. Executive Director Quiroz stated, *"Our participation in the International Planning Meeting represents a crucial step in our preparation for Expo 2025."*

One idea that evolved from the meeting was the country's pavilion. Each country will be responsible for its pavilion, which will be a marketing tool to attract investors and visitors to what the country has to offer. Belize's pavilion theme is - **One Belize, One Purpose: Ecosystem For Life.** Executive Director, Quiroz explained *"The Belize Pavilion will serve as a gateway for millions of visitors to experience our nation's rich cultural heritage and explore the diverse investment opportunities our country offers."*

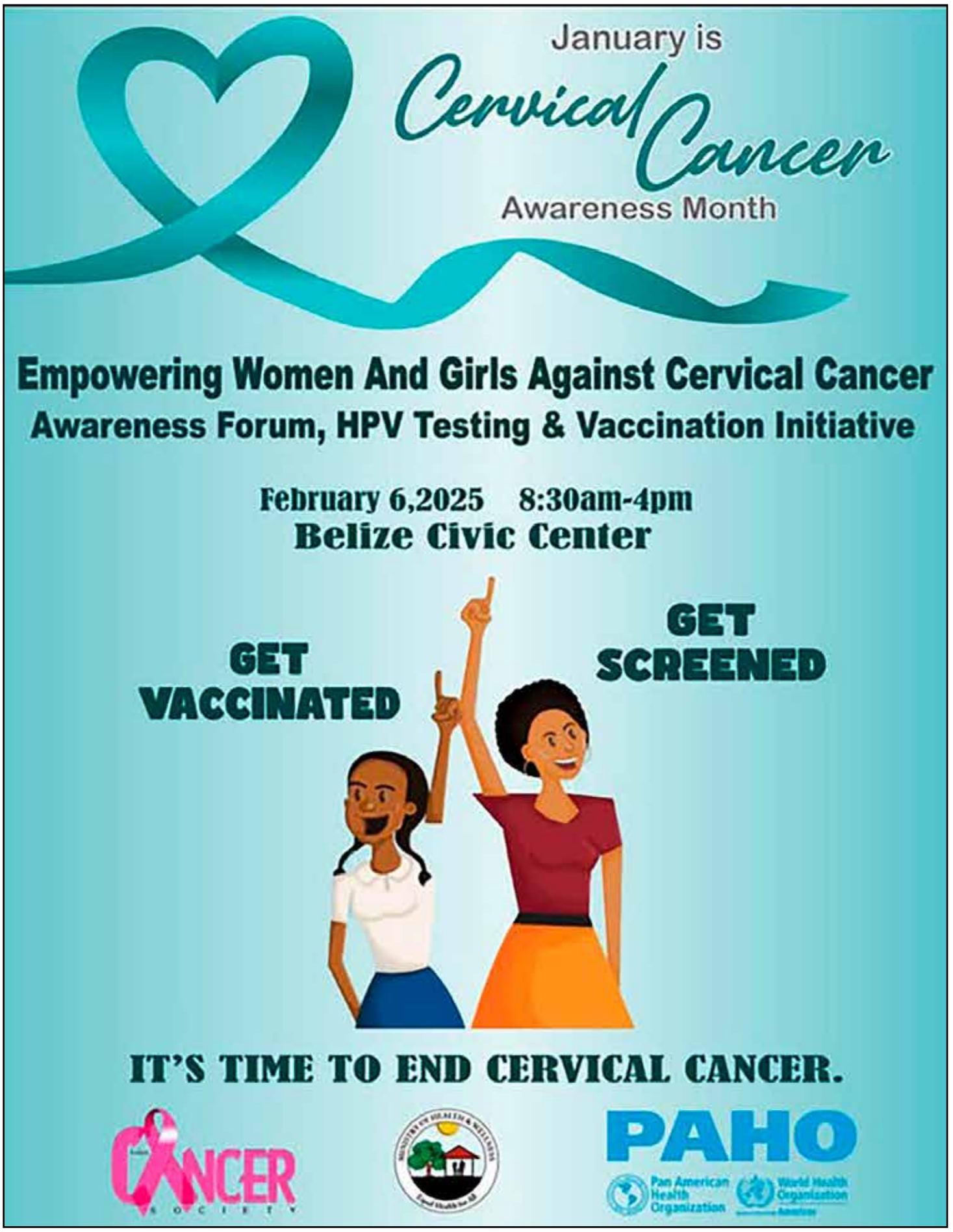
Nikki Agustine told Vibes Media that the focus is on investments in tourism and sustainability. Agustine indicated that other CARICOM member states will be participating and are being sponsored by the Government of Japan. Antigua and Barbuda's objective is to position the country as a premier destination dedicated to sustainability and the preservation of all walks of life. Jamaica's pavilion will highlight its history of music, its creativity, notable figures from the island, and aspects of its culture that make it unique. Each country will be positioning itself at the Expo 2025 on the global platform.

The Belize Pavilion at Expo 2025 Osaka is a collaborative effort of BELTRAIDE, the Belize Tourism Board (BTB) and the Blue Bonds Unit for Finance Permanence, and will highlight the country's vibrant culture, innovative industries, and investment opportunities. Collectively, these agencies will ensure that the Jewel is positioned prominently on the international stage.

As the press release noted, **Belize will also hold a "National Day" in Osaka Japan on August 3rd, 2025,** that will include representatives from the Government of Belize, the private sector, local businesses and creatives from Belize's Orange economy.

Belize's attendance at Expo 2025 Osaka is one more occasion in fulfilling the mandate of PlanBelize - WE IN THE WORLD.

By Hilly Bennett



B.E.E.P SEED CAPITAL AWARD CEREMONY
Remarks by CEO Narda Garcia
OFFICE of the Prime Minister
Tuesday January 28 2025
UWI AUDITORIUM

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests, honoured awardees, and members of the Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project community, Good morning!

It is a true privilege to stand before you today at this momentous occasion, where we come together to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our awardees and the transformative impact of the Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project.

I would like to recognize Members of the BELTRAIDE board, Representative to the CDF

Ishmael Quiroz, Executive Director of BELTRAIDE and his great team here at BELTRAIDE, Ms. Kim Vasquez from ICA-NICH and Mrs Kim Aikman, CEO of the BCCI, Mr Erwin Torres from the DFC.

Before we proceed, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the individuals and organizations that have made this project possible. To our partners, sponsors, and supporters, your unwavering commitment to empowering entrepreneurs in Belize has been instrumental in fostering innovation, resilience, and growth within our communities. I am told the selection panel did an awesome job but invested countless hours to do the best possible. A million thanks for that.

Special thanks go to the Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable John Briceno, who did not hesitate to pen a letter to the CEO of the Caribbean Development Fund when we suggested that it was imperative for him to do so to ensure that we could use these funds for seed capital for our entrepreneurs. You see, to convince him was easy, as our Prime Minister believes in entrepreneurship. As an entrepreneur himself, he recognizes and appreciates what seed capital can do for a startup or a business getting ready and trying to fulfil all the requirements for export.

I would be remiss in not mentioning Dr. Almendarez, the former Executive Director of Beltraide, as he is also a great believer in entrepreneurship and the MSME ecosystem as a catalyst for growth. He was instrumental in pitching our idea to the CEO of the Caribbean Development Fund. And today is the result of his sales skills.

To the CEO of the CDF, we are grateful, and we thank him on behalf of the Government and people of Belize, especially for believing in our capacity to create and to transform our communities through the empowerment of our businesses.

Today, we gather not just to present grants, but to honour the spirit of entrepreneurship that thrives in Belize. Each of our awardees has demonstrated exceptional dedication, creativity, and perseverance in their respective fields. They have faced challenges head-on, and through their hard work and determination, they have not only uplifted themselves but also inspired those around them.

The Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project is more than just a funding initiative; it is a catalyst for transformation. It embodies our collective belief that when we invest in individuals, we invest in the future of our communities. By providing resources, training, and support, we are enabling our entrepreneurs to turn their visions into reality, create jobs, and contribute to the economic vitality of Belize.

To our awardees, today is a celebration of your achievements. You have demonstrated that with passion and perseverance, anything is possible. Your innovative ideas and commitment to excellence are a testament to the entrepreneurial spirit that is alive and well in Belize. As you receive your grants, remember that this is not just a financial boost; it is a recognition of your hard work and a vote of confidence in your potential.

I am told that 29 MSMEs have been selected to receive grant funding through BEEP: 14 from the Startup category and 15 from the Export category. Interestingly, these businesses represent diverse industries and regions. "In the startup category, we see an exciting combination of industries. We have 3 businesses in professional services, 2 in agro-processing, 4 in agriculture, 2 in tourism, and an impressive 9 in the creative industry. Wow, my friends at NICH will be so happy!

The export category showcases even greater diversity, with 5 businesses each in light manufacturing and the creative industry, 1 in tourism, 3 in agro-processing, and 1 breaking ground in the Belize Processing Outsourcing sector. Unbelievable!

But I am particularly heartened, yet not surprised to see the strong representation of women-led businesses among our grant recipients. This reflects the incredible talent and entrepreneurial spirit of Belizeans and, in particular, Belizean women, who are playing a vital role in driving economic growth and innovation. Why am I not astonished that 10 female-led in Start-Up and 8 female-led in export are receiving grants?!!!

Let me reiterate that the impact of BEEP extends far beyond these individual businesses. By fostering their growth, we are creating jobs, stimulating economic activity, and building a more resilient and diversified economy for all Belizeans. Our commitment to these MSMEs does not end today. BEEP will continue to provide support and mentorship as these businesses utilize their grants and embark on their growth journeys.

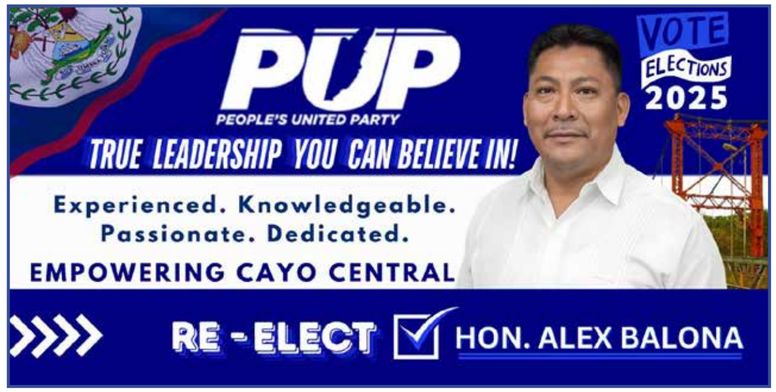
As we look to the future, let us continue to foster an environment where entrepreneurship can flourish. Let us support one another, share our knowledge, and collaborate to create a thriving ecosystem for all. Together, we can build a Belize where every aspiring entrepreneur has the opportunity to succeed, where creativity is nurtured, and where innovation knows no bounds.

In closing, I would like to once again congratulate all our BEEP grant recipients. Your achievements inspire us all, and we are excited to see the incredible impact you will continue to make in your communities and beyond. Thank you for your hard work, your passion, dedication, vision and your commitment to making Belize a better place for everyone.

Let us celebrate this moment and let us continue to empower one another as we move forward together.

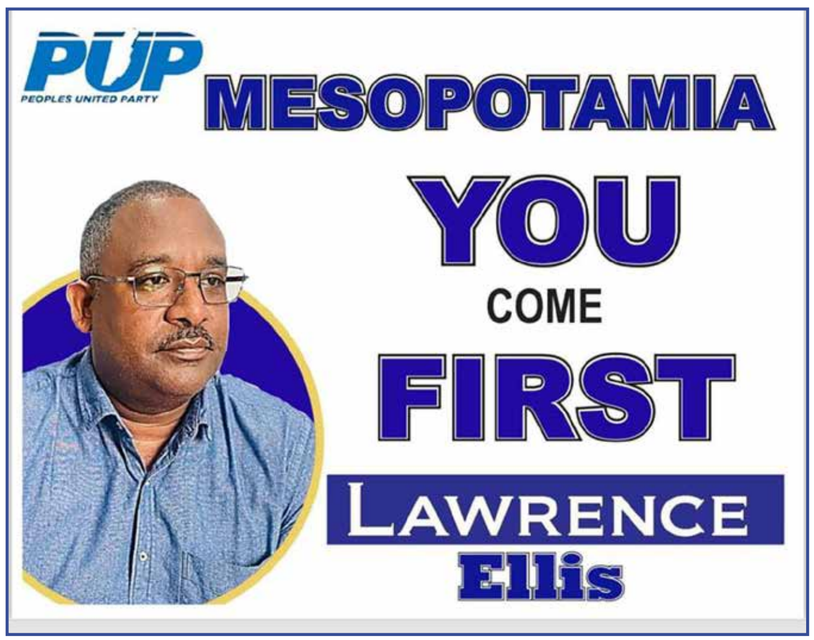
Thanks

BELIZE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES LTD.
Fi WE Boledo!
Did You Know...
Profits from the Belize Government Lottery Games are used to aid in the funding of social programs such as the National Health Insurance (NHI), sporting initiatives and other charities of the OCF.
When you participate in any of the Belize Government lottery games, you support these social programs.
Fi We Profits! Fi We Fun!
Fi We Boledo!



PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY
right on track

PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY
vamos bien



PUP & #planBelize

STAY PAN TRACK IN 2025

PM Briceño and Hon. Kareem Musa at a Police Department All Officers Conference 2025 at the National Police Training Academy

Hon. Landy Habet Cayo NorthEast w/ Minister of Tourism Anthony Mahler

Opening El Cayo Board Walk

Hon. Florencio Marin, Corozal Northeast

Consulting with the people

Hon. Henry Usher, Fort George

Meeting with Constituents at Home

Hon. Rodwell Ferguson, Stann Creek West w/ MIDH's Julius Espat

Cementing of Placencia/Seine Bight Rd.

Hon. Julius Espat, MIDH all over Belize

FINALLY, a DRY spell allowing work on the Philip Goldson Highway in Belize City

Crooked Tree Causeway after the floods

Toledo East

'The Work Continues'

VOICE OF THE COMMON MAN

THE REAL PERSPECTIVE

By Hilly Bennett

Ralph Waldo Emerson, who died in 1882, was considered a champion of individualism and critical thinking, observed that leaders are more effective in their first term of power. Ruchir Sharma writing in the Economic Times titled 'The Diminishing Returns of Power': Leaders are more effective in their first term of power, expressed that Waldo's observation becomes lost on most politicians who often tend to overstay their welcome in office. Sharma suggests that this is particularly true in the developing world with young democracies, where term limits are either not widespread or where several incumbent leaders change the constitution at the peak of their popularity to extend their stay in office.

However, Sharma proffered that in most established democracies that popularity wanes rapidly for those leaders who remain in power for more than a decade. Consequently, whatever goodwill is achieved during the term in office almost often dissipates rapidly for those who stay on beyond their term in office. The history of political leadership is replete with those who overstayed their time as leaders and ruined the goodwill achieved in their tenure. Vladimir Putin's ratings had declined after two terms of office. He was prevented from being President and decided to become the Prime Minister of Russia. However, he sought another presidential mandate in 2012. Putin instead of possibly becoming the most successful leader since Nikita Khrushchev, as Sharma points out, has run the risk of joining the pantheon of leaders who have frittered away their goodwill by staying on for too long. Bolivia President Evo Morales via a referendum in 2009 was allowed to change the constitution which allowed him to remain in office until 2014. In Belize, there were no term limits and George Price was one of two leaders who led the country from 1954 to 1984 when he lost to Derek Aikman in the 1984 General Election, but was most revered by the Belizean populace. The other exception was Lee Kuan Yew leader of Singapore who after thirty years was widely admired. On the other hand, Dean Barrow, a three-term prime minister, boasted about his tenure and felt the wrath of the electorate in November 2020. He was voted out!

Prime Minister, John Briceño has announced that after another term in office, he will ride on into the political sunset. Notwithstanding the Constitution allows for a third term to lead. Nonetheless, he will continue to lead the country after a 2025 election victory.

In considering his first term as the Prime Minister of Belize, the PM and his administration are responsible for some unprecedented achievements, even 'turning water into wine' moments. This People's United Party (PUP) Government led by John Briceño has brought the country back from the doldrums left by the Dean Barrow administration of utter atrocities. For thirteen years of UDP reign, Belize and its people were witness to rampant corruption, wanton borrowing, and reckless spending and were victims of utter neglect. The special interest groups and the elites were spoon-fed while the masses had to settle for the crumbs from the table of the family, friends and cronies of Massa Dean.

There have been two misconceived articles written with unfounded literary venom regarding John Briceño's leadership. One of the articles considers him and his administration elitist. The other, a nonsensical-intellectual is suggesting that the country is being ruled by a plutocracy. The REAL PERSPECTIVE dispels these two and any nonsensical notions. In both an elitist society and a plutocracy the interests of the marginalized, the downtrodden, the Common Man and Women are least considered by the respective groups. Contrarily, John Briceño continues to look after the interests of the people furthest behind, reducing poverty, and creating opportunities. Instituting noble initiatives such as the National Health Insurance (NHI) and Free Education. That is surely not the semblance of an elitist government. John Briceño relied on guidance from his Cabinet and did not approve the Portico project. Another example is the denial of the Vulcan Materials Company which in 2019 revenue was $4.929 billion. Briceño recently told Lord Michael Ashcroft that he would not be preferred special interest by the People's United Party (PUP) and he could pack up and leave. This isn't the sign of a Plutocracy. President Donald Trump has given administrative assignments to 13 billionaires after his victory, including the richest man in the world. That is the epitome of what can be considered a plutocracy.

Contrary to a leader with a scintilla of elitist interest or leading a plutocratic government and the political norm of leaders identified by Sharma's article, John Briceño has decided to leave the political life with all the goodwill that has impacted the lives in the development of the country under his stewardship [intact] Interestingly, a writer [Glen] of the Amandala newspaper compared John Briceño to the Father of the United States, George Washington, who served two terms as president of the country (1789-1797) and retired from politics even though he could have been president for life. Similarly, Briceño has indicated that this will be his final term and could have opted to remain in power in "perpetuity" since there is no "Opposition to worry about."

Because of the respect developed for PM Briceño, the writer stated "Damn, it almost makes me want to become a member of the PUP! Wat a ting!" The writer concluded the article by saying "Mr. Briceño, I salute you!" Prime Minister, John Briceño has garnered the confidence, respect and admiration of leaders globally and most importantly that of the Belizean people. **That is the Real Perspective!**

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY & VEHICLE

Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District; Belmopan City, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property and vehicle. Sales currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this property and vehicle are sold.

1 . PARCEL NO. 4001 L O U S IANA FARM ROAD N EAR I T S JUNCTION WITH RAINTR E E DRIVE , ORANGE WA L K TOWN, ORANGE WA L K D I STR I CT:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Orange Walk Town	4	4001
The freehold property of Mr. Issac Budan.		

2 . 2007 TOYOTA HI LUX:

2007 Toyota Hilux (Viewing: Belmopan, Cayo District)

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY

San Ignacio, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. **Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this property is sold.**

1. PARCEL NO. 129 CAHAL PECH HILL ROAD, SAN IGNACIO, CAYO DISTRICT:

Registration Section	Block	Parcel
San Ignacio South	2	129
Freehold Property		

TERMS: STRICTLYCASH

KEVIN A. CASTILLO TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: *belizepropertyauctions.com*

E-mail:*kevinacas@yahoo.com*

Facebook: *Belize Auctions*

MAJOR DRAINAGE WORK IN PORT WITH HON. GILROY USHER

Earlier this week Hon Gilroy Usher Area Representative for Port Loyola and the Belize City began a major drainage project in the division to alleviate the hardship of many families on Neal's Pen Rd., Waller's Alley, and Arlington Dr. when their homes and yards are flooded for months in the rainy season as is the present situation.

The project includes clearing existing drains, building new ones, and installing necessary culverts to channel flood water from the community to a suitable destination.

Since Area Representative Gilroy Usher has already assisted scores of residents in the affected area with leases and titles for their land and built two access roads in the community, the drainage project will make it easier for families to uplift themselves by building their own homes, improving their businesses, and providing their children with the best possible education among other things.

Many thanks to residents who are assisting in every possible way with the project.

HON GILROY USHER PROVIDES NECESSARY STREET LIGHTS IN PORT

The quality of life for residents of Ariel Hall St, Ground Dove St, T-St, Gill St, and Curl Thompson St was greatly improved with the installation of additional street lights on those streets by Hon Gilroy Usher Area Representative for Port Loyola.

With the new street lights residents can live their lives without the fear of being the victims of robbery, assault, or other criminal acts in those areas of the community that were once dark.

Having the new street lights in key positions in the community with also enable residents to enjoy various sports and other social events during the night.

The Hon. Gilroy Usher is looking to represent Port once more. His record in Port is copious and his people know this. The people of Port are ready to extend his time in the area. The UDP tried to unseat

BWS

IDB

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
CONSULTING SERVICES

Country: *Belize*
Project: *Water Supply & Modernization Program*
Loan/Credit/Grant No.: *BL-L1043 (5754/OC-BL)*
Institution: *Belize Water Services*
Abstract: *Consulting services for drawings and designs for civil works, piping, and electrical installations and adaptations to improve operational performance of BWS with a focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation.*
Contract/Bid No.: *BL-L1043-P00007*
Deadline*: February 19, 2025*

The *Belize Water Services has received* financing from *the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)*, toward the cost of the *Water Supply & Modernization Program* and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") for ***Drawings and Designs for Civil Works, Piping, and Electrical Installations and Adaptations*** include: *a survey and efficiency assessment of pumps and motors installed at BWS plants and pump stations (countrywide) which will be used to propose and size adequate measures to improve their energy efficiency including (but not limited to) replacement of equipment, as well as detailed civil, mechanical and electrical designs for the implementation of these proposals.*

The *Belize Water Services* now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. **Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.**

From the expressions of interest received, the Executing Agency will prepare a short list comprising not fewer than five (5) and not more than eight (8) eligible firms.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the policies.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. For the purpose of establishing the short list, the nationality of a firm is that of the country in which it is legally incorporated or constituted and in the case of Joint Venture, the nationality of the firm appointed to represent it.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the *QCBS* method set out in the Consultant Policies.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by email by *February 19, 2025, by end of business day.*

Belize Water Services
Attn*: Ms. Jahnina Reyes, Procurement Specialist*
7 Central American Boulevard, Belize City, Belize C.A.
Tel: *+501-222-4757*
E-mail: *rce@bwsl.com.bz*

Blue Economy Labour Force Upskilling

Sustainable Marine Practices Training

January 27, 2025, Hopkins Village, Belize - The successful conclusion of a training course on the topic of Sustainable Marine Practices Training, supported by the Compete Caribbean window of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Group, marks a pivotal step in advancing Belize's sustainable development. As part of the country's Blue Economy Investment Promotion Strategy, this initiative has sought to empower tour guides and tourism workers in Hopkins Village with essential skills to safeguard coral reef ecosystems while enhancing their service offerings.

This program addressed a critical knowledge gap identified through a BELTRAIDE needs assessment. Designed to certify participants, the training emphasized integrating reef conservation practices into tours and creating innovative, reef-focused tourism experiences.

Over the course of 10 days, 19 participants, including five women, received comprehensive training in both soft and technical skills. Trainers from the Belize Training and Employment Center, a unit of BELTRAIDE, delivered soft skills sessions covering customer service, sales, self-leadership, conflict resolution, and professional etiquette. Meanwhile, Elittorial Environmental Consultants from Spain led technical training, focusing on coral reef identification, ecology, threats, and conservation practices.

The program culminated in a field trip to the Belize Barrier Reef, organized by Hamanasi Belize Resort, where participants applied their newly acquired knowledge through hands-on activities. This practical experience solidified their understanding and commitment to promoting sustainable tourism.

"These participants are now ambassadors for sustainable tourism, championing conservation practices and creating reef-centered experiences that align with Belize's Blue Economy vision," said Mr. Ishmael Quiroz, Executive Director of BELTRAIDE. "Together, we are building a future where Belize's Blue Economy thrives, powered by environmental sustainability and economic growth."

BELTRAIDE extends heartfelt gratitude to the IDB, Compete Caribbean, Hamanasi Belize Resort, facilitators, and participants for their dedication to preserving Belize's marine biodiversity and fostering a sustainable Blue Economy. (release)

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE CENTRE
Building Resilience. Securing Our Future.

Country:	**Belize**
Donor:	**Green Climate Fund (GCF)**
Project Name:	**Building the Adaptive Capacity of Sugarcane Farmers in Northern Belize (BaCSuF)**
Contract Title:	**a. Transformation Specialist** **b. (4) Transformation Officers** **c. Project Technical Officer**
Contract #:	**a. 08/2025/GCF/BacSuF/Belize/CCCCC** **b. 14/2025/GCF/BacSuF/Belize/CCCCC** **c. 15/2025/GCF/BacSuF/Belize/CCCCC**
Estimated Start Date:	**February 2025**
Deadline for Submission:	**on or before 2:00 p.m. Belize Time (GMT-6), Friday, 21 February 2025**

The **Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)** has received grant funding from the **Green Climate Fund** for **Building the Adaptive Capacity of Sugarcane Farmers in Northern Belize Project (BaCSuF)**.

The CCCCC intends to use part of the proceeds of the grant for the following contracts:

a. **"Transformation Specialist"**
b. **"(4) Transformation Officers"**
c. **"Project Technical Officer"**

The detailed Request for Expression of Interest, Terms of Reference and other related documents can be downloaded at: https://caribbeanclimate.bonfirehub.com/

Requests for clarification should be received by the Centre no later than: **Friday, 7 February 2025.**

The deadline for submission of bids is **on or before 2:00pm (GMT-6), Friday, 21 February 2025** via the CCCCC electronic bidding box https://caribbeanclimate.org/opportunities/

The CCCCC is not bound to accept any bids received and may cancel the selection process at any time prior to the award of contract without liability.
Interested bidders that do not comply with the requirements set out in the REOI document may be disqualified.

The CCCCC is an equal opportunity employer.

3rd Floor, David L. McKoy Business Centre, Bliss Parade, P.O. Box 563, Belmopan, Belize
info@caribbeanclimate.bz
+(501) 822-1104/1094

Orange Walk East Executive Recommits to Kevin Bernard

OW East Executive Post: The Honorable Kevin Bernard, our dedicated Area Representative, has been committed to serving the people of Orange Walk East since day one.

His executive committee is a true pillar of support, and they came together to reaffirm their commitment for the next term with Plan Belize 2.0.

Orange Walk East is ready—whenever the bell rings!

BPD Honors Outstanding Officers at Inaugural Awards Ceremony

January 29, 2025 - The Belize Police Department held its first-ever Police Awards ceremony, recognizing the exceptional service of eighty (80) officers who have demonstrated dedication, bravery, and professionalism in their duties. The event, hosted by Commissioner of Police Chester Williams, took place at the Belmopan Civic Center and aimed to boost morale within the force while reinforcing the values of integrity and commitment.

Commissioner Williams highlighted the significance of acknowledging officers while they are still serving, stating, *"At the end of the day, you must not wait for a man to die to tell them that they are good. We must tell them while they are alive."*

Among the honorees were officers who displayed extraordinary courage, such as those who rescued three children from a burning building in San Pedro. The awards spanned various categories, recognizing both individual achievements and collective efforts in law enforcement operations across the country.

Earlier this month over sixteen senior officers were recognized for their service.

Awardees:

Senior Officer Awards (Western Region)

- **Crispin Castillo, Supt.** – Deputy Western Regional Commander
- **Jesús Palma, Supt.** – Officer Commanding Benque Viejo Formation
- **Martha Rhys, Supt.** – Officer Commanding Belmopan Formation
- **César Franco, ASP** – Officer Commanding San Ignacio Formation
- **Marciano Mejía, ASP** – Deputy Officer Commanding Belmopan Formation
- **Angel Chan, ASP** – Deputy Officer Commanding Benque Viejo Formation (Ops)
- **Stephanie Grinage, ASP** – Deputy Officer Commanding San Ignacio Formation (Admin)
- **Juan Sam, ASP –** Deputy Officer Commanding San Ignacio Formation (Ops)

Operational Support Awards

- **Aaron Gamboa, Supt.** – Officer Commanding Special Patrol Unit
- **Marciano Mejía, ASP.** – Officer Commanding Mobile Interdiction Unit
- **Jaime Ferrufino** – Officer Commanding K9 Unit

Police Formation Awards

- **Benque Viejo Formation** – Highest Traffic and Drunken Driving Enforcement, Top Community Policing Initiatives
- **Belmopan Formation** – Highest in Quality-of-Life Offenses Enforcement
- **San Ignacio Formation** – Highest in Targeted Successful Operations
- **Roaring Creek Sub-Station** – Highest in Interception/Interdiction Efforts and Recovery of Stolen Properties

Civilian Recognition

- **Alfredo Chavarria** – Driver for Western Regional Commander

The event underscored the importance of recognizing law enforcement personnel and inspiring excellence across the department. Commissioner Williams reaffirmed his commitment to continuing such initiatives, ensuring officers feel valued for their service to the nation. Thank you, ladies, and gentlemen!

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE
BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND
BNTF 10 PROJECT
INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of Eligible Sub-projects and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under this contract. Payment by CDB will be made only at the request of (GOBZ) and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than (GOBZ) shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Project is being implemented by the Ministry of Finance through the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF). BSIF has contracted Consultants who will assist the GOBZ with delivering the Project. The Consultants have prepared designs and contract documentation and will assist in tender administration and evaluation and supervise Project activities.

BSIF now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for **Santa Cruz Village Water Supply System Rehabilitation and Expansion, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District, Belize, BNTF 10**

The works include, but are not limited to the following:

Scope of Works

The scope of works includes the supply and installation of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes, fittings, and accessories for transmission and distribution lines, water meters and accessories for service connections, a pumping and a chlorinating system, and the rehabilitation of the existing elevated storage tank and pumphouse.

Firms whether bidding individually or in the form of a Joint Venture, shall:

(a) be legally incorporated or otherwise organised in, and have their principal place of business in an Eligible Country;

(b) be more than fifty (50) percent beneficially owned by a citizen or citizens and/or a bona fide resident or residents of an Eligible Country, or by a body corporate or bodies meeting these requirements, as far as the ownership can be reasonably determined; and

(c) shall have no arrangement and undertake not to make any arrangement whereby the majority of the financial benefits of the contract, i.e. more than fifty (50) percent of the value of the contract, will accrue or be paid to sub-contractors or sub-consultants that are not from an Eligible Country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB. Bidders are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the *Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021), as published on CDB's website*.

Eligible bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Tender and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Documents. Submissions that do not provide the information required, or do not demonstrate the prospective contractor's ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

Qualification requirements include, inter alia:

(a) an average annual turnover (defined as certified payments received for works in progress or completed) within the last five years of at least One Million Belize Dollars (BZ$1,000,000.00),

(b) a demonstrable cash flow (including access to credit) of one hundred thousand Belize dollars (BZD $100,000.00);

(c) experience as prime contractor in the construction assignments of similar nature, scope and complexity comparable to the proposed project activity within the last five (5) years (to comply with this requirement, works quoted should be at least 80 percent complete).

Bidding Documents may be obtained by eligible bidders from the first address below for a non-refundable fee of BZD $50.00. Requests may be made by written application including email. Written applications must be clearly marked: **"Request for Bidding Documents for the Santa Cruz Village Water Supply System Rehabilitation and Expansion, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District, Belize"**, along with the name, address and contact information of the bidder for which Bidding Documents are being requested. The method of payment will be by cash deposited to, or Bank transfer to the Social Investment Fund's bank account only. A request for the Social Investment Fund's banking details can be made at the address below. The Social Investment Fund is not accepting cash payment currently.

Submissions in sealed envelopes clearly marked **"Bid for the Santa Cruz Village Water Supply System Rehabilitation and Expansion, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District, Belize"**, must be received at the address below not later than **10:00 a.m. on 24th February 2025**. Bid opening will take place immediately after the deadline for submission at the address below in the presence of bidders representatives who choose to attend.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of BZD $5,000.00. Late bids will be **rejected**.

A Pre-bid meeting with interested eligible bidders will be held at **11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 31st 2025** at the **El Exito Restaurant, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek, Belize.** Bidders can participate in the meeting; whereby, queries will be addressed. Bidders are urged to attend.

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for the Government of Belize's action. The Government of Belize will not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids.

Addresses:

1. Contact: Stephanie Rodriguez
Procurement Officer
Social Investment Fund
3rdFloor, #1902 Constitution Drive
Belmopan Cayo District
Tel: 822-0239/822-0508
Email: stephanie.rodriguez@sifbelize.org
copy to: angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org and
carlos.tun@sifbelize.org

Belmopan Safety is a priority!

Walkway to St. Martin Government School Complete

The students now have a safe sidewalk to walk to school. Before they had to walk just ON the road. Accidents were always a present danger. It has now been complete and we are just waiting on the rains to stop to paint the dividers yellow.

From the very first day, I was given the privilege of being your Area Representative, I have done one project after the next. Nonstop! As soon as we would finish a project, we would start another. This is the leadership that Belmopan elected me for.

Next is a walkway for Kuxlin Ha Primary School for the safety of the children in that area! This is a project that will impact hundreds of students and other pedestrians! - Hon. Oscar Mira

Mira is one of the planBelize team members that uses his Constituency Development Fund (CDF) with efficacy. This is issued under this Briceño administration to all Representatives even the Opposition. This PUP administration does not see the representative as a remnant of the Barrow administration. The PUP sees the Opposition as representatives of constituencies of Belizeans. Divisive politics is left to the perennially bitter UDP or what is left of them.

Allow a little digression, Hon. Prime Minister of Belize John Briceño is on record stating that the UDP should get their act together and end their shameless infighting. But good advice is not something that the UDP has never taken. So, the UDP ignoring of the people continues as usual. Two versions of the UDP, one, remnants of the "corrupt dinosaurs" and the other followers of the offspring of the 'king of incompetence'. The King of Incompetence actually reigned over the corrupt dinosaurs for thirteen long years. So, at least for 13 years as PM, he was a leader corruptly misleading his departments of "hotbeds of corruption". The ringmaster is as much a clown as his alley of clowns.

Effective Chemicals and Waste Management

Workshop on the National Strategy for the Implementation and Reporting of Chemical-Related MEAs and the Global Framework on Chemicals

The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change, through the Belize Department of the Environment - DOE , is proudly hosting a pivotal workshop on the National Strategy for the Implementation and Reporting of Chemical-Related MEAs and the Global Framework on Chemicals at the San Ignacio Hotel in the Cayo District!

We're excited to have Minister Orlando Habet delivering the keynote address, setting the stage for an impactful session facilitated by Stephen Sangster, a renowned consultant in the development of national MEA strategies.

This workshop brings together major stakeholders from across the nation, including:

Government Agencies: Key ministries and departments dedicated to effective chemicals and waste management.

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs): Specialists in environmental conservation and public health.

Private Sector: Industry leaders engaged in the management, use, or production of chemicals.

Academia: Experts and researchers contributing vital technical insights and capacity-building support.

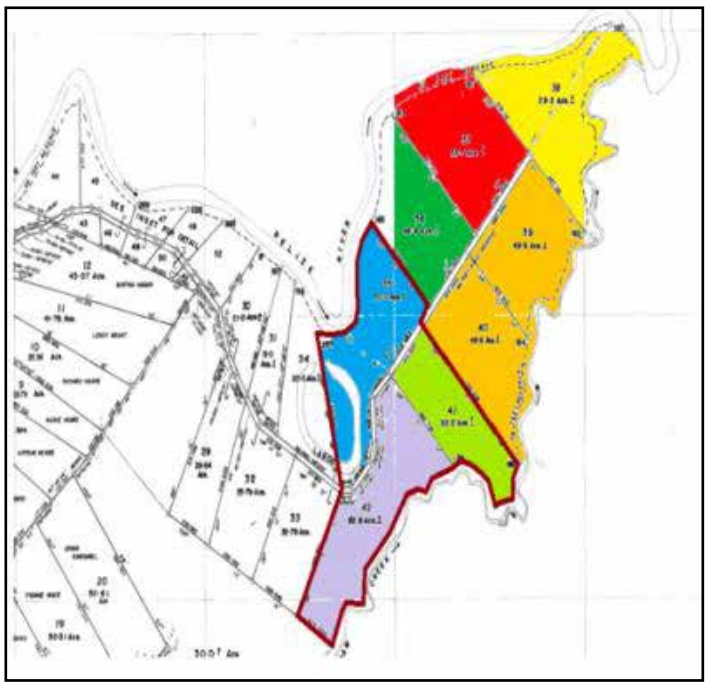
Together, we're working towards a sustainable future! Stay tuned for updates and insights from this important event!

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES & VEHICLES

Never Delay Agricultural Layout, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Messrs. Atlantic Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties in ONE LOT. Sales running currently and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until this LOT is sold.



ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of land situate in More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout in the Cayo District more particularly described as follows:- Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700437 dated June 4th, 2018, block No. 35 containing 50.0 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700438 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 36 containing 48.8 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700439 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 37 containing 55.7 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700928 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 38 containing 59.2 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700929 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 39 containing 49.9 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700376 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 40 containing 48.9 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700377 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 41 containing 50.2 acres; Deed of Conveyance at LTU-201700378 dated June 7th, 2018 block No. 42 containing 62.8 acres TOGETHER with all building, erections and improvements thereon.

(Being 425.5 ACRES of agricultural properties developed with a pivot irrigation system [BEING SOLD IN ONE LOT] situate at the end of the More Tomorrow Road between the Belize River and Beaver Dam Creek, Cayo District, the freehold properties of Messrs. Pivot Limited.

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

Youths Receive Grant to Promote Climate Change Awareness and Action

January 24 - In a bold and transformative move to tackle climate change and encourage a sustainable future, the Department of Youth Services (DYS) is proud to share that it has received a $50,000 grant from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This generous funding will support various youth-centered initiatives designed to raise awareness about climate change and inspire collective action to combat its impacts.

The grant will facilitate a series of interactive educational activities, including youth-focused community events, digital campaigns, and forums that highlight the importance of environmental conservation and sustainable living. These events aim to equip young people with the knowledge and practical tools they need to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and become active advocates for sustainability within their communities.

A key component of the initiative is the "Our Future, Our Planet: Digital Pathway to Combat Climate Change" campaign, which has garnered enthusiastic participation from eleven different schools in the Belize district. This initiative has provided students with the opportunity to engage in creative projects, fostering innovation in climate action. It concluded with a highly competitive event where participants showcased their outstanding contributions to combating climate change.

In addition to the Digital Pathway initiative, the Department of Youth Services successfully hosted the Climate Change Youth Forum at Escuela Secundaria Técnica México, Corozal. Participants included students from Muffles College High School, New Hope High School, Escuela Secundaria Técnica México, the Corozal Child Advisory Body, Corozal Junior College, and Centro Escolar Junior College. Booths were organized by the Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development (SACD), Oceana, the Japan International Cooperation Agency Belize (JICA), the Health Education and Community Participation Bureau (HECOPAB), and the National Climate Change Office. Special guests included Mayor Rigo Vellos and experts from the University of Belize.

A highlight of the forum was the Project Design Competition, where youth teams presented innovative solutions to climate issues. Judges praised the creativity and commitment of the participants, marking the competition as a great success.

The Department of Youth Services commends all participants, guest speakers, and organizers for making the events a resounding success. Through continued collaboration and innovative actions, we are paving the way for a brighter, greener future. (release)

SEA CUCUMBER CLOSED SEASON

"Ensuring the sustainable use and conservation of this important fishery resource"

The Belize Fisheries Department informs all fishers and the public that, in accordance with Statutory Instruments No. 67 of 2009 and No. 107 of 2022, the sea cucumber fishery will be closed from February 1 to July 31, 2025.

The principal regulation 2, sub-section 10, states: "No person shall fish for, harvest, buy, sell, possess, export, or attempt to export any sea cucumber species between February 1 and July 31, inclusive, in any year."

Any person found in possession of sea cucumber during this period will be charged and prosecuted in a court of law in accordance with the Fisheries Regulations.

The assistance of the fishing community and the public is greatly appreciated in ensuring the sustainable use and conservation of this important fishery resource.

For additional information or to report any illegal fishing activity, please contact the Fisheries Department at telephone number 224-4552 or email fisheries_department@fisheries.gov.bz. (release)

PACT
Protected Areas Conservation Trust

VACANCY NOTICE

Human Resources Manager

The Human Resources Manager leads PACT's Human Resources Department operationally and strategically, ensuring that human resources functions and services are clearly defined and fully aligned with organizational priorities. With a particular focus on Strategic and Workforce Planning; Employee Engagement, Relations, and Work-Life Quality; Capacity Development; Change Management; Policy Review, Development, and Implementation; Performance Management; Risk Management; Compliance; Compensation and Benefits; Talent Acquisition, Retention, and Management; Information Management; and Culture Building, the Human Resources Manager adeptly balances and integrates organizational and employee interests and needs for overall success.

Requirements:

- **Required:** Master's Degree in Human Resources Management, Human Resources Development, Organizational Psychology, Organizational Leadership, or closely related field
- **Asset:** Certification in one or more areas of Human Resources specialization; Professional Human Resources certification
- **Required:** Minimum of five (5) years management experience, including at least one (1) year of Human Resources Management experience

The full job description is available at www.pactbelize.org. Packages must be submitted electronically and must include signed application letter, resume, certified copies of academic certificates, current police record (receipt can be submitted initially) and a list of two professional references (names and contact information only) no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, February 7th, 2025. Only complete packages will be processed. Packages should be addressed to:

Human Resources
info@pactbelize.org with copy to ed@pactbelize.org
Re: Human Resources Manager Vacancy

PACT is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against protected characteristics (gender, age, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnicity, religion, disability).

PACT is not liable for any costs incurred by applicants in submission of their application.

BY ORDER OF MORTGAGEE
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED a statutory body formed and registered under the Credit Union Act, Chapter 314 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, and whose registered office is situated at No. 1 Hyde's Lane, Belize City, Belize District hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as Mortgagee under and by virtue of a Deed of Mortgage registered at the Land Titles Unit between **MAVIS WILLIAMS** of the one part and **HRCU** of the other part.

HRCU will at the expiration of three months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property described in the Schedule below.

ALL offers to purchase the said property must be made in writing to Holy Redeemer Credit Union Limited from whom full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT lot, piece, or parcel of land being Lot No. 2, comprising 1,181.421 square metres situate in the Lord's Bank Road, Ladyville Village, Belize District, being such land comprised in Grant No. 213 of 1995 dated 12th September 1995 and more particularly shown and delineated on a Plan of Survey by M. E. Sanchez, Licensed Land Surveyor, recorded at the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, Belmopan City, Cayo District in Register No. 14, Entry No. 2531TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon the freehold property of MAVIS WILLIAMS

DATED this 20th day of January 2025

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED
1 HYDE'S LANE, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
Phone: (501) 280-5644
Fax: (501) 223-0738
E-mail: foreclosures@hrcubelize.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/hrcuforeclosure/

Rapid DNA testing In-Country

The Belize NFSS completed the installation of an Applied Biosystems RapidHIT ID instrument in the newly created Rapid DNA Section of the NFSS Forensic Laboratory. This cutting-edge technology will allow for in-country Rapid DNA testing for crime scene samples, human remains and disaster victim identification for urgently needed investigative or identification needs. This investment of taxpayers' dollars into expansion of the NFSS's scope represents a solid commitment by the Government of Belize in advancing the nation's forensic investigative capacity.

Rapid DNA technology has revolutionized crime-solving in many jurisdictions worldwide by rapidly generating DNA profiles in as little as 90 minutes. This technology provides the ability to quickly identify suspects, thereby potentially preventing further crimes. It can be used to link individuals to past offenses, or link crime scenes to crime scenes, and assist in the resolution of cold cases. By streamlining the identification process, Rapid DNA technology can free up resources at forensic labs to focus the use of conventional DNA analysis on more complex cases, such as processing sexual assault evidence kits and conducting in-depth crime scene investigations. The expedited workflow of Rapid DNA leads to faster resolutions for investigations, reduced case backlogs, and more efficient utilization of laboratory resources.

This new Rapid DNA service is planned to come fully online at the NFSS over the next three months. It is important to note that the NFSS continues to outsource conventional DNA analysis to accredited laboratories in the USA for cases that require DNA evidence as part of criminal proceedings in the Court. (post)

Editor: Belize is looking forward to the rapid identification of perpetrators and thus the rapid serving of Justice. This is definitely a game changer and an increase in citizen protection and security.

Solid Waste Management Authority
Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change

RELAUNCH

REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR THE BELOW PROJECT

Belize Solid Waste Management Authority

Operation of the Regional Sanitary Landfill of the Regional Sanitary Land – Mile 24 George Price Highway

BSWAMA Mile 24 Contract No: 0001-24/25

The Belize Solid Waste Management Authority through the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change intends to contract the services of a service provider for the maintenance of the Regional Sanitary Landfill at Mile 24 George Price Highway.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS

Operate and manage the Regional Landfill Facility's final disposal area to: Receive, store, and dispose of solid waste; compact and cover the disposed solid waste; involves the upkeep of the internal roads and drainage system.

The Operator is required to provide a bulldozer to spread, compact and bury solid waste delivered to the working face of the Mile 24 Regional Sanitary Landfill, in a safe and efficient manner.

1. The Belize Solid Waste Management Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for this purpose as described in the bidding document.
2. The Request for Bids will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures and is open to all qualified bidders.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Belize Solid Waste Management Authority office and obtain a copy of the bidding document at the address given below from Monday to Friday 8:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m.
4. Qualifications requirements include *technical, financial, legal and other requirements.* Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be obtained by interested bidders on the submission of a written request or email to the address below. The Bidding Documents will then be sent to the prospective bidder.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below, on or before the deadline on February 17, 2025 at 10:00 am and Bids will be opened on the February 17, 2025 at the same below address on the same date at 10:30am.
7. Electronic bidding will **not be accepted**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below. All bids must be accompanied by a *Bid-Securing Declaration.*
8. The address referred is:

Belize Solid Waste Management Authority
Attn: Procurement Officer
3013 Bougainvillea Street, Orchid Garden Area
City of Belmopan, Belize, C.A.
Tel: (501) 802 1527, PO Box 285
E-mail: ArzuTL@gobmail.gov.bz & procurement@solidwaste.gov.bz

NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF DISSOLUTION

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that the following companies ("the Companies") Registered under the Belize Companies Act 2022 commenced dissolution as follows:

Name of Company	Date of Commencement of Dissolution	Liquidator Name & Address
KMK TRANSPORT LTD.	16th December, 2024	Marie Kathleen Sandra Yan-Kai Hew Khee of C239, Block C, The Junction Business Hub, Calabasses, Mauritius
XANTHIA CORPORATION	16th December, 2024	Mrs. Yan Kai Hew Khee Sandra of C239, Block C, The Junction Business Hub, Calabasses, Mauritius
AAA INTERNATIONAL LTD.	16th December, 2024	Mrs. Yan Kai Hew Khee Sandra of C239, Block C, The Junction Business Hub, Calabasses, Mauritius
ERCIL LTD.	08th January, 2025	Cr. Conrado Dartayete Rey of Rincon 602, Suite 601, Montevideo, Uruguay

Icaza Belize Trust Corporation Limited
Registered Agent

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the below company has been dissolved and struck off the Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Register with effect from the date indicated:

Name of Company	Date
KMK TRANSPORT LTD.	27th December, 2024
XANTHIA CORPORATION	20th December, 2024
AAA INTERNATIONAL LTD.	20th December, 2024
ERCIL LTD.	09th January, 2025

Icaza Belize Trust Corporation Limited
Registered Agent

LETTER TO THE Editor

PlanBelize – Delivering Real Progress in Education

Dear Editor,

As a proud Belizean, I commend the Briceño Administration for its unwavering commitment to education under PlanBelize. The recent collaboration between the Ministry of Education, the Belize National Teachers' Union (BNTU), and school leaders/managers/owners marks a historic step forward in strengthening our education system. For the first time, all key stakeholders sat together in meaningful dialogue, reaffirming their shared responsibility to enhance learning opportunities for our students.

Awesome: this government has consistently prioritized education—expanding free education, providing digital devices and school supplies, and investing in infrastructure. The recent agreement underscores a commitment to collaboration, ensuring that teachers, students, and parents benefit from a system designed to meet the needs of our growing nation.

I see this as equitable access to quality education is not just a promise; it is being delivered. The PUP government is proving that when leadership is focused on progress, Belize thrives.

Our nation is moving forward, and PlanBelize continues to work for all Belizeans.

Sincerely,

T. Lopez
Young Future Educator

Belize National Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed Your Glory to all nations, please protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country.

God of might, wisdom and justice, please assist our Belizean government and people with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude.

Let Your light of Your divine wisdom direct their plans and endeavours so that with Your help we may attain our just objectives.

With Your guidance, may all our endeavours tend to peace, social justice, liberty, national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge.

We pray, O God of Mercy, for all of us that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the

observance of Your most holy law, that we may be preserved in union and, in that peace which the world itself cannot give.

And, after enjoying the blessings of this life, please admit us, dear Lord, to that eternal reward that You have prepared for those who love You.

Amen.

VACANCY

Terms of Reference

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR I

THE BELIZE TAX SERVICE DEPARTMENT

1. Purpose of Position:

The System Administrator I is responsible for the robust and efficient operation of the organization's IT systems and infrastructure. This role involves the provisioning, installation, configuration, and maintenance of hardware, software, and related infrastructure to ensure high availability and optimal performance. The System Administrator I implement and maintain system standards, performs regular security and performance monitoring, and provides advanced support to resolve complex technical issues. This position is essential for the stability and security of the organization's IT environment, contributing to its overall operational success.

2. Analysis of Position:

I. Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

SA Engineering and Provisioning

- Install new/rebuild existing servers and configure hardware, peripherals, services, settings, directories, storage, etc.
- Install and configure computer-based systems.
- Develop, document, and maintain installation and configuration procedures.
- Contribute to and maintain system standards.
- Research and recommend innovative approaches for system administration tasks.

Operations and Support.

- Ensure daily system monitoring and verify the integrity and availability of all hardware, server resources, systems, and key processes.
- Conduct regular security monitoring to identify possible intrusions.
- Ensure daily backup operations and regular file archival and purge.
- Create, change, and delete user accounts as requested.
- Provide Tier Ill support and investigate and troubleshoot issues.
- Repair and recover from hardware or software failures.

Maintenance

- Apply OS patches and upgrades regularly.
- Upgrade and configure system software supporting local infrastructure.
- Perform periodic performance reporting to support capacity planning.
- Perform ongoing performance tuning and resource optimization.

Supervision:

- Supervise, manage, and appraise junior officers.

II. Requirements:

a. Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology, or a related field.
- 3-5 years of hands-on experience in system administration.
- Certifications will be an asset:
- Certifications such as CompTlA Server+, Microsoft Certified: Windows Server, Red Hat Certified System Administrator (RHCSA), or equivalent.
- Advanced certifications (e.g., Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator, AWS Certified SysOps Administrator, VMware Certified Professional).

b. Experience:

- Proven experience with virtualization (e.g., VMware, Hyper-V) and containerization (e.g., Docker, Kubernetes).
- Experience with monitoring and performance tuning tools (e.g., Nagios, SolarWinds).
- Proficiency in scripting languages (e.g., PowerShell, Python, Bash).
- Strong understanding of networking concepts, firewalls, and security protocols.
- Experience with cloud services (e.g., AWS, Azure, Google Cloud).

c. Competencies/Skills:

Technical:

- Hands-on experience troubleshooting hardware/software issues.
- In-depth knowledge of technical environments and network topologies.
- Proficiency with Windows and Linux operating systems and servers.
- Experience with installing network cables and patching.
- Strong knowledge of security protocols, systems analysis principles, and disaster recovery methods.
- Project management skills and supervisory capabilities.
- Ability to implement and troubleshoot changes and modifications
- Knowledge of current technological developments/trends in area of expertise.
- Ability to write detailed professional technical and nontechnical reports.
- Excellent decision making, judgment, analytical and planning skills;

Behavioral:

- Strong leadership skills.
- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Ability to present ideas in a business-friendly and user-friendly language.
- Highly organized, self-motivated, self-directed, and attentive to detail.
- Ability to effectively prioritize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment.
- Extensive experience working in a team-oriented, collaborative environment.
- Strong ethical standards and professional integrity. Excellent time management and organizing skills.

III. Special Work Conditions (physical demands. job hazards. pressures):

- Highly confidential environment
- Long and irregular hours
- High Stress working environment.
- Available to work on weekends and holidays as required with incentives;
- Travel from time to time;

3. Reporting Responsibility:

The System Administrator I will report to the MIS Manager.

4. Location: Headquarters, Eleanor Hall Bldg., Lake I Blvd., Belize City, Belize

5. Salary: Government Payscale 21 of $38,106 x 1,644 - $69,342 per annum.

Application Process: Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references to **Director General, Belize Tax Service Department, Ministry of Finance, Eleanor Hall Building, Belize City by February 14th , 2025**; only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

Note: The Terms of Reference may be subject to amendments or modifications as deemed necessary by the hiring authority.

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **Verna Samuels** is applying for a **Hotel Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bird's Eye View Lodge"** located in Crooked Tree Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Naresh & Simran Naresh Ramchandi** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"J.N. Supermarket"** located at # 15 Queen Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Isson S. Charles** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Tey's Food Spot"** located in Double Head Cabbage Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Oneyda Zetina/ Osvaldo Zetina** are applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Zetina's Place"** located at # 136 Green Street, Belama Phase IV, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Kimmasha D. McField** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**K3 Cool Spot"** located at # 823 Central American Blvd., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Alexander Babb** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**Carmita's Fast Food"** located at # 1 Regent Street West, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Queen's Grab & Go Ltd.** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**Queen's Grab & Go. Ltd."** located on P.G. HWY., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Baoquan Zhang** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**Bao Quan's Shop and Fast Food"** located on Lovely Lane, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jitendra Chawla** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**JC Club Belize"** located at 2 Mls. G.P. HWY., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jean Barrera** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at "**One For The Road"** located at # 24 ¼ Miles P.G. HWY., Biscayne Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Salma & Rajual Islam** are applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at "**New Peoples Lunch Box"** located at # 100 North Front Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Paulita Y. Teyul** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at "**Bri's Shop"** located at # 179 Green Street, Belama Phase IV, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Curtis C. Arnold** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Ekron Company Ltd."** located at 2 Mls. P.G. HWY., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Allen A. Andrews** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**The Alexandria Marquis Hotel & Resort"** located at 66 ½ Miles G.P.HWY., Esperanza Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Rose M. Aldana** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**Complex Bar & Grill"** located on Bradley St., S.I. Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Veronica & James Molina** are applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**Hidden Spring General Store & Lounge"** located in 7 Miles Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Court & Sandra Roberson** are applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**The Bluff"** located in Cristo Rey Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Fernando/ Blanca R. Ramirez** are applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**El Chile Cantina & Grill"** located at # 2 Blue Hole St., S.I. Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jordan J. Casimiro** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**J & J Cool Spot"** located on Said Musa St., Benque Viejo Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Ling Hao** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**Clivia Restaurant"** located at # 10 South Ring Rd., Belmopan City, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Samuel Charley** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at "**Charley's Place"** located in San Antonio Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jose L. Herrera** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**Wicho's Pit Stop"** located in Calcutta Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Stephen J. Honeybill** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**The Crimson Orchin Inn"** located in Orchid Bay, Chunox Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Emerita Lee Budna** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**Lazy Guana"** located in Libertad Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Ricardo M. Rivas** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at "**Corozal Service Station"** located on 7th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Froila M. Tzul** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at "**Las 4 Reynas"** located on 8th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yangjian Zhao** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**J Mart Supermarket"** located in San Joaquin Village, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yan Cui** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**China Store Grocery Shop"** located on Santa Rita Road, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Araceli I. Gomez** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at "**Chely's Beers"** located on Olga Marin Dr., Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Betsy E. White** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at "**Beth's Deli"** located on 2nd Street North, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Elvis White** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**Euphoria Sports Pub"** located on 2nd Street North, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Chunyan Liu** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**Gallito Supermarket"** located on 2nd Street South, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Zhuo Wu Wu** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**New World"** located on 7th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jia Mei Chen** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**San's Store"** located on 5th Ave./1st Street, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Ruixue Luo** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**Rainbow One Supermarket"** located on 3rd Street, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jian Jian Lin** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at "**Shun Li Fast Food"** located at # 61-4th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jin Yong Li** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**Chang Fa Store"** located on Park Street, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Canjian Chen** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**Corozal Chan's Supermarket"** located on Park Street, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Shaomei Wu** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**New Bridge Supermarket"** located on 7th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jian Bin Wu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Ban's Store & Fast Food"** located on Santa Elena Rd., Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jiarong Chen** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Parkway City Ltd."** located on 6th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Hong Chao Wu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Fry's Store"** located on Santa Rita Rd., Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Qing Yang Huang** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Home Best Store"** located on 7th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jiabao Lin** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Guotai Supermarket"** located on 7th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Hong Chen Wu** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**Corozal Family Supermarket"** located on 1st Street South, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xiang Pei Zhen** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Henry's Supermarket"** located on 3rd Street South, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xiao Qing Mark** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**East Store"** located on 4th Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Hui Xian Mei** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Max's Supermarket"** located on Altamira Road, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Wanbi Wu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at "**Haun-Huan Store"** located on 3rd Street South, Corozal Town, Corozal District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

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